

well as ostomy surgery. With the constant support of his swimming family, as well as the inspiration given him by his wife Nancy, Chuck was quickly able to regain his fighting spirit.

Four years removed from his ordeal, Chuck is as active as ever. In 2008, Chuck traveled to China with the U.S. Swim Team for the Beijing Olympic Games. Aside from his role with USA Swimming, Chuck is the chief executive officer of the USA Swimming Foundation, and is looking forward to taking on the responsibility of helping others through sharing his personal story of triumph.

There are thousands of brave Coloradans who share Chuck's story, and it is an honor for me to be able to tell that story here, for the record. I congratulate Chuck and the other Great Comebacks Award recipients for 2010, and I urge my colleagues to take the time to learn more about the struggles brave citizens such as Chuck face in your own respective States. Their stories, like Chuck's, are inspirational; with help from all of my colleagues here today, we can together begin to heighten awareness about some of the huge strides being made by people living with intestinal diseases or recovering from ostomy surgery.●

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, today I recognize Bland County, VA, which celebrates its sesquicentennial this month.

Bland County possesses the strong sense of community that makes Virginia an outstanding place to live and work. The county has a rich history, and is the only county in the Commonwealth that came into being during the Civil War.

Called "the land between the tunnels" because of its unique location, Bland County has more miles of the Appalachian Trail than any other county and contains more than 76,970 acres of the Jefferson National Forest. It is a place where people are willing and eager to work, and where the spirit of independence runs freely and fiercely along its ridges and through its valleys.

Bland County will commemorate the 150th anniversary of its founding with celebrations held on March 30, the date the county received its charter from the Commonwealth of Virginia. I would like to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Bland on this milestone anniversary and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages

from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 525. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 570. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists and allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:30 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 525. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health.

H.R. 570. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists of allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

From the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with amendments:

S. 493. A bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-849. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Cooperative Threat Reduction Programs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-850. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Montana Regulatory Program" (Docket No. MT-031-FOR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-851. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Louisiana Regulatory Program/Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan" (Docket No. LA-023-FOR) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-852. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Application of ASTM Standard Practice C1671-07 When Performing Technical Reviews of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation Packaging Licensing Actions" (Interim Staff Guidance Document No. 23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-853. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "403(b) Plan Terminations" (Revenue Ruling 2011-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-854. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report prepared by the Department of State on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the periods October 1, 2010 through November 30, 2010; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-855. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report prepared by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, pursuant to the MINER Act of 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VITTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 516. A bill to extend outer Continental Shelf leases to accommodate permitting delays and to provide operators time to meet new drilling and safety requirements; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KYL, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 517. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to award grants for States to implement minimum and enhanced DNA collection processes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. RISCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 518. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 519. A bill to further allocate and expand the availability of hydroelectric power generated at Hoover Dam, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):